

Abstract of the Disclosure

This application relates to a method and apparatus for heating a surface marking, such as a thermoplastic pattern in an asphalt substrate. The marking may be selected for functional or decorative purposes. The method involves gradually applying heat to the marking to avoid scorching and to ensure a consistent bond with the underlying substrate, even in the case of markings having a very large surface area. In one embodiment the method a portable heating apparatus is provided having infrared heaters mounted for reciprocal movement in a travel path periodically passing over the marking and the underlying substrate. The heating method permits direct visual monitoring of the work site to achieve optimum adhesion of the marking to the asphalt or other substrate.